UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS HOUSTON DIVISION

BLUE RIVER COMMUNICATIONS, INC.	§ §
Plaintiff,	§ 8
V.	§ CIVIL ACTION NO. 4:21-cv-00418
THE BURLINGTON INSURANCE	§
COMPANY,	§
Defendant.	§ §

INDEX OF MATERIALS ATTACHED TO NOTICE OF REMOVAL

No.	Date Filed or Entered	Document
A-1	N/A	List of Counsel of Record
A-2	N/A	State Court Docket Sheet
A-3	01/08/2021	Plaintiff's Original Petition
A-4	01/08/2021	Civil Case Information Sheet
A-5	01/08/2021	Request for Issuance of Service
A-6	01/12/2021	Plaintiff's Demand for Jury Trial
A-7	02/08/2021	Defendant The Burlington Insurance Company's Original Answer

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COMAPNY,	§
Defendant.	§ §

LIST OF COUNSEL OF RECORD

COUNSEL FOR PLAINTIFF:

Christopher M. Cammack 7324 Southwest Freeway, Suite 1466 Houston, Texas 77074 cmc@cammack-law.com

Larry G. Longer 5005 W. 34th Street, Suite 206A Houston, Texas 77092 lglonger@swbell.net

COUNSEL FOR DEFENDANT:

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S.D. Bar No. 28635
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Texas Bar No. 24027960
S.D. Bar No. 34593
QUILLING, SELANDER, LOWNDS,
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Wm. Lance Lewis, Attorney-in-Charge

Office of Harris County District Clerk - Marilyn Burgess Page 1 of 2 Case 4:21-cv-00418 Document 1-1 Filed on 02/08/21 in TXSD Page 6 of 23

HCDistrictclerk.com BLUE RIVER COMMUNICATIONS INC vs. THE

BURLINGTON INSURANCE COMPANY

Cause: 202101108 CDI: 7 Court: 133

APPEALS

No Appeals found.

COST STATMENTS

No Cost Statments found.

TRANSFERS

No Transfers found.

POST TRIAL WRITS

No Post Trial Writs found.

ABSTRACTS

No Abstracts found.

SETTINGS

No Settings found.

NOTICES

No Notices found.

SUMMARY

CASE DETAILS **CURRENT PRESIDING JUDGE**

File Date 1/8/2021 Court 133rd

Case (Cause) Location Address 201 CAROLINE (Floor: 11)

HOUSTON, TX 77002 Case (Cause) Status Active - Civil Phone:7133686200

Case (Cause) Type Insurance JudgeName JACLANEL M. MCFARLAND

Next/Last Setting Date N/A Civil **Court Type**

1/12/2021 Jury Fee Paid Date

ACTIVE PARTIES

Name Type Post Attorney

Jdgm

BLUE RIVER COMMUNICATIONS INC PLAINTIFF - CIVIL CAMMACK.

CHRISTOPHER

M.

THE BURLINGTON INSURANCE COMPANY **DEFENDANT - CIVIL** LEWIS,

WILLIAM LANCE

2/8/2021

THE BURLINGTON INSURANCE COMPANY REGISTERED AGENT

INACTIVE PARTIES

No inactive parties found.

JUDGMENT/EVENTS

Date	Description	Order	Post Pgs Volume Filing			Person
		Signed	Jdgm	/Page	Attorney	Filing
2/8/2021	ANSWER ORIGINAL PETITION		0		LEWIS, WILLIAM LANCE	THE BURLINGTON INSURANCE COMPANY
1/12/2021	JURY FEE PAID (TRCP 216)		0			
1/8/2021	ORIGINAL PETITION		0		CAMMACK, CHRISTOPHER M.	BLUE RIVER COMMUNICATIONS INC

SERVICES

Type	Status	Instrument	Person	Requested	Issued Served Returned Receiv	ed Tracking	g Deliver
							To
CITATION (INSURANCE COMMISSION)			THE BURLINGTON INSURANCE COMPANY	1/8/2021	1/11/2021	73829550	E-MAIL

6320 QUADRANGLE DRIVE SUITE 300 CHAPEL HILL NC 27517

DOCUMENTS

Number	Document	Post Jdgm	Date	Pgs	
94302518	Defendant the Burlington Insurance Companys Original Answer		02/08/2021	5	
93895758	PLAINTIFF'S DEMAND FOR JURY TRIAL		01/12/2021	1	
93843749	PLAINTIFFS ORIGINAL PETITION		01/08/2021	3	
-> 93843750	CIVIL CASE INFORMATION SHEET		01/08/2021	1	
-> 93843751	REQUEST FOR ISSUANCE OF SERVICE		01/08/2021	1	

Case 4:21-cv-00418 Document 1-1 Filed on 02/08/21 in TXSD Page 9 of 23

Marilyn Burgess - District Clerk Harris County
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By: Courtni Gilbert
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V.	8 §	HA	RRIS	COUNTY	r, tex	AS
THE BURLINGTON INSURANCE COMPANY	\$ \$			UDICIAL	DISTRI	CT

PLAINTIFF'S ORIGINAL PETITION

TO THE HONORABLE JUDGE OF SAID COURT:

COMES NOW, BLUE RIVER COMMUNICATIONS, INC., Plaintiff, and files this Original Petition against Defendant, THE BURLINGTON INSURANCE COMPANY, and for cause of action, would show the following:

- 1. Plaintiff, BLUE RIVER COMMUNICATIONS, INC., is a Texas corporation doing business in Harris County, Texas. This lawsuit seeks monetary relief over \$200,000.00 but not more than \$1,000,000.00. Discovery shall be conducted under Level 2. TRCP 190.
- 2. Defendant, THE BURLINGTON INSURANCE COMPANY, is a foreign insurance company that does not maintain an agent for service of process in Texas, and therefore, may be served with Citation through the Commissioner of Insurance, Texas Department of Insurance, 333 Guadalupe, Austin, Texas 78701, who then shall forward a Citation and copy of Plaintiff's Original Petition to The Burlington Insurance Company, 6320 Quadrangle Drive, Suite 300, Chapel Hill, North Carolina, 27517.
- 3. For cause of action, Plaintiff would show that it had in effect a Commercial General Liability Policy No. 957BW51763 with Defendant, covering the calendar period of May 18, 2019 to May 18, 2020. During the effective policy period, on or about October 22, 2019, Plaintiff was working as a subcontractor for Grayco, the general contractor, at an office building located at 1849 Kingwood Drive, Kingwood, Harris County, Texas.

- 4. Plaintiff is an installer of fiber optic cable. While performing its sub-constructor work for Grayco at the aforementioned office building, one of Plaintiff's employees accidentally ran over a sewer cap, breaking it, while operating an escavator. A trench was being dug outside the office building, in which to install fiber optic cables. Plaintiff was not doing any work that involved removal, burial, treatment or transport of "pollutants."
- 5. Water damage was sustained in the interior of the office building that was unrelated to the broken sewer cap outside the building. Rather, it was discovered that a shut off valve on one of the toilets in the women's rest room was not functioning properly, and an automatic toilet sensor was also not functioning properly, causing toilet water to keep running incessantly and overflowing the toilet seat. When plumbers came out to fix the problem, they further discovered blockage in the pipes consisting of mud, leaves, natural debris and hygiene products that should not have been flushed down the toilet to start with, such as baby wipes and tampons.
- 6. Plaintiff was required to pay \$142,513.39 from its dwn funds to Grayco, the general contractor on the job in question, as Grayco had to first pay the building owner, hence it required reimbursement from Plaintiff, its subcontractor. The actual damages consist of \$95,100.74 in repair costs and \$47,412.65 in water extraction/remediation expenses.
- 7. Plaintiff made a claim on its Commercial General Liability Policy No. 957BW51763 with Defendant, seeking payment for an insurable loss, which claim Defendant denied, based upon a policy exclusion that speaks to discharge, dispersal, seepage, migration, release or escape of pollutants. Plaintiff contends that the denial of coverage by Defendant is erroneous and constitutes a violation of Section 541,060. Texas Insurance Code.
- 8. Liability was reasonably clear, yet Defendant refused to pay the claim without conducting a reasonable investigation into the claim. A reasonable investigation would have led Defendant to

discern the facts stated in the preceding paragraphs. Plaintiff reade a pre-lawsuit written demand upon Defendant, by letter dated May 18, 2020 sent by certified mail, return receipt requested, for payment of the \$142,513.39 in actual damages, and gave Defendant more than 61 days after receipt of the letter to pay said damages. Defendant has paid no portion of said monetary damages.

- 9. Plaintiff seeks Judgment against Defendant for a statutory violation of Section 541.060, Texas Insurance Code, and seeks \$142,513.39 in actual damages, plus three times that amount per Section 541.152, Texas Insurance Code, reasonable and necessary attorney's fees as determined on an hourly basis, and all court costs.
- 10.. WHEREFORE, PREMISES CONSIDERED, Plaintiff prays that the Defendant be cited to appear and answer herein, and that upon final adjudication thereof, Plaintiff be granted a Judgment against Defendant, for actual damages up to \$142,513.39, for treble damages of three times said amount, reasonable and necessary attorney's fees on an hourly basis, pre-judgment interest and post-judgment interest per the Texas Finance Code, all Court costs, and that the Court grant Plaintiff such other and further relief, to which Plaintiff shows itself justly entitled.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Chris Cammack
Christopher M. Cammack
State Bar No. 03682100
7324 Southwest Freeway, Suite 1446
Houston, Texas 77074
Ph. 713-960-1921/Fax 713-960-1922
E-mail: cmc@cammack-law.com

Larry G. Longer
State Bar No. 12541200
5005 W. 34th Street, Suite 206A
Houston, Texas 77092
Ph. 713-623-0499/Fax 713-622-3772
E-mail: lglonger@swbell.net

ATTORNEYS FOR PLAINTIFF

Case 4:21-cv-00418 Document 1-1 Filed on 02/08/21 in TXSD

1/8/2021 1:44:40 PM Manilyn Burgess - District Clerk **Harris County**

CAUSE NUMBER (FOR CLEAR USE ONLY):

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Christopher M. Cammack cmc@canmack-law.com			BLUE RIVER Others Control Contr			V-D Agency	
Address:	Velephone:		COMMUNI	ICA1	TONS INC	******************	
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Case 4:21-cv-00418 Document 1-1 Filed on 02/08/21 in TXSD

Marilyn Burgess HARRIS COUNTY DISTRICT CLERKÍ 201 Giroline | P.O. Sox 4651 | Houston, Texas 77216-4651 ||852-927-5800 | wasshotisticsticsterk com

1/8/2021 1:44:40 PM Manum Burgess - District Clerk **Harris County** Envelope No: 49535576 By: GILBERT, COURTNI N

Filed: 1/8/2021 1:44:40 PM

Request for Issuance of Service CASE NUMBER: CURRENT COURT(Name(s) of Documents to be served: Plaintiff's Original Petition FILE DATE: 01/08/2021 Month/Day/Year SERVICE TO BE ISSUED ON (Please List Exactly As The Namé Appears In The Pleading To Be Served): Issue Service to: The Burlington Insurance Company Address of Service: 6320 Quadrangle Drive, Suite 300 City, State & Zip: Chapel Hill, North Carolina 27517 Agent (if applicable) N/A TYPE OF SERVICE/PROCESS TO BE ISSUED: (Check the proper Box). Citation Citation by Posting Citation by Publication Citations Rule 106 Service Citation Scire Facias Newspaper____ Temporary Restraining Order Precept Notice Protective Order Secretary of State Citation (\$12.00) 🔲 Capias (not an E-Issuance) 📋 Attachment Certiorari Highway Commission (\$12,00) Commissioner of Insurance (\$12,00) Thague Convention (\$16,00) Garnishment Habeas Corpus Injunction Sequestration Subpoena Other (Please Describe) (See additional Forms for Post Judgment Service) SERVICE BY (check one): MAIL to attorney at: (No Service Copy Fees Charged) CONSTABLE Note: The email/registered with EffleTexas gov must be CERTIFIED MAIL by District Clerk used to retrieve the E-Issuance Service Documents. Visit www.hodistrictolerk.com for more instructions. CIVIL PROCESS SERVER - Authorized Person to Pick-up: Phone: OTHER, explain

Issuance of Service Requested By: Attorney/Party Name: Christopher Cammack Bar # or ID 03682100

Mailing Address: 7324 Southwest Freeway, Suite 1446, Houston, TX 77074

Phone Number: 713-960-1921 (Office) / 713-870-6883 (Mobile)

Marilyn Burgess - District Clerk Harris County Envelope No. 49617731

By: Iliana Perez Filed: 1/12/2021 11:00 AM

NO. 2021-01108

BLUE RIVER COMMUNICATIONS, INC.	§	IN THE	DISTRICT	COURT OF
	§			
V.	§	HARRIS	COUNTY	, TEXAS
	§			
THE BURLINGTON INSURANCE COMPAN	VY §	133 RD	JUDICIAL	DISTRICT

PLAINTIFF'S DEMAND FOR JURY TRIAL

TO THE HONORABLE JUDGE OF SAID COURT:

COMES NOW, Plaintiff, BLUE RIVER COMMUNICATIONS, INC., who hereby demands a jury trial in the above-styled cause, per TRCP 216, and tenders herewith the jury fee of \$40.00.

Respectfully submitted,

__/s/ Chris Cammack_ Christopher M. Cammack State Bar No. 03682100 7324 Southwest Freeway, Suite 1446 Houston, Texas 77074 Telephone: 713-960-1921 Telecopier: 713-960-1922

E-mail: cmc@cammack-law.com

Larry G. Longer State Bar No. 12541200 5005 W. 34th Street, Suite 206A Houston, Texas 77092 Telephone: 713-623-1921 Telecopier: 713-622-3772 E-mail: lglonger@swbell.net

ATTORNEYS FOR PLAINTIFF

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

The foregoing item has not been served on anyone since the Defendant has not been served with Citation and has not otherwise answered or appeared herein.

/s/ Chris Cammack	
Christopher M. Cammack	

Marilyn Burgess - District Clerk Harris County Envelope No. 50436353 By: Keeley Hodgins Filed: 2/8/2021 10:06 AM

CAUSE NO. 2021-01108

BLUE RIVER COMMUNICATIONS, IN	NC. §	IN THE DISTRICT COURT
	§	
Plaintiff,	§	
	§	
v.	§	OF HARRIS COUNTY, TEXAS
	§	
THE BURLINGTON INSURANCE	§	
COMPANY,	§	
	§	
Defendant.	§	133RD JUDICIAL DISTRICT

DEFENDANT THE BURLINGTON INSURANCE COMPANY'S ORIGINAL ANSWER

Defendant The Burlington Insurance Company ("Defendant" or "TBIC") files its Original Answer to Plaintiff's Original Petition (the "Petition") and hereby states as follows:

I.

GENERAL DENIAL

Defendant denies all and singular the allegations contained in the Petition and demands strict proof thereof.

II.

ADDITIONAL DEFENSES

Defendant pleads the following matters in defense, should the same be necessary:

- 1. Defendant specifically denies that all conditions precedent to Plaintiff's claims for recovery have occurred or been met.
- 2. Coverage is precluded by the Total Pollution Exclusion (IFG-G-0086 03 17) which states as follows:

THIS ENDORSEMENT CHANGES THE POLICY. PLEASE READ IT CAREFULLY.

TOTAL POLLUTION EXCLUSION

This endorsement modifies insurance provided under the following:

COMMERCIAL GENERAL LIABILITY COVERAGE PART

A. Exclusion f. under Paragraph 2. Exclusions of Section I – Coverage A – Bodily Injury And Property Damage Liability Coverage is replaced with the following:

This insurance does not apply to:

f. Pollution

- (1) "Bodily injury" or "property damage" caused by or arising directly or indirectly, in whole or in part out of the actual, alleged or threatened discharge, dispersal, disposal, seepage, migration, release or escape of "pollutants" at any time."
- (2) Any loss, cost or expense caused by or arising directly or indirectly, in whole or in part out of any:
 - (a) Request, demand, order or statutory or regulatory requirement that any insured or others test for, monitor, clean p, remove, contain, treat, detoxify, or neutralize, or in any way respond to, or assess the effects of "pollutants"; or
 - (b) Claim or suit by or on behalf of a governmental authority for damages because of testing for, monitoring, cleaning up, removing, containing, treating, detoxifying or neutralizing, o in any way responding to or assessing the effects of, "pollutants".

This exclusion applies whether or not such "pollutants" have any function in your business, operations, premises, site or location or constitutes "your product" or is a component of "your products" or products you use.

"Pollutants" mean any solid, liquid, gaseous, bacterial, fungal, or thermal substance or material, that is harmful, toxic or hazardous to persons, plants, animals, wildlife or other living organisms or can cause contamination to property, air, land or water, which includes but is not limited to smoke, vapor, soot,

fumes, acids, alkalis, chemicals, mineral spirits, solvents, insecticides, pesticides, fungicides, motor fuels, gasoline, diesel fuel, motor oil or any other petroleum based product, brake fluid, transmission fluid, antifreeze, lead paint, or other lead containing substances, carbon monoxide fumes, paint fumes, adhesive or glue fumes, asbestos, silica, human or animal sewage and waste. Waste includes but is not limited to materials to be recycled, reconditioned or reclaimed. A "pollutant" also includes any substance or material listed, identified or described in any municipal, state or federal environmental statute or regulation that applies to the production, shipping, handling, storage, use, processing, recycling or disposal of such substance or material.

3. Coverage is precluded by the Fungi or Bacteria Exclusion (CG 21 67 12 04)

which states:

THIS ENDORSEMENT CHANGES THE POLICY. PLEASE READ IT CAREFULLY.

FUNGIOR BACTERIA EXCLUSION

This endorsement modifies insurance provided under the following:

COMMERCIAL GENERAL LIABILITY COVERAGE PART

A. The following exclusion is added to Paragraph 2. Exclusions of Section I – Coverage A – Bodily Injury and Property Damage Liability:

2. Exclusions

This insurance does not apply to:

Fungi Or Bacteria

a. "Bodily injury" or "property damage" which would not have occurred, in whole or in part, but for the actual, alleged or threatened inhalation of, ingestion of, contact with, exposure to, existence of, or presence of, any "fungi" or bacteria on or within a building or structure, including its contents, regardless of whether any other cause, event, material or product contributed concurrently or in any sequence to such injury or damage.

b. Any loss, cost of expenses arising out of the abating, testing for, monitoring, cleaning up, removing, containing, treating, detoxifying, neutralizing, remediating or disposing of, of in any way responding to, or assessing the effects of "fungi" or bacteria, by any insured or by any other person or entity.

This exclusion does not apply to any "fungi" or bacteria that are, are on, or are contained in, a good or product intended for bodily consumption.

"Fungi" means any type of form of fungus, including mold or mildew and any mycotoxins, spores, scents or byproducts produced or released by fungi.

- 4. Coverage is precluded by the no voluntary payment provision of the policy which provides: "No insured will, except at the insured's own costs, voluntarily make a payment, assume any obligation, or incur any expense, other than for first aid, without our consent."
- 5. To the extent Plaintiff was contractually obligated to pay for the loss at issue, the Contractual Liability exclusion precludes coverage.
 - 6. Plaintiff has failed to state a claim for which relief may be granted.
 - 7. The policy is subject to the deductibles and the limits of insurance stated therein.

WHEREFORE, PREMISES CONSIDERED, Defendant The Burlington Insurance Company prays that Plaintiff take nothing by this suit and that Defendant goes hence and recover costs on its behalf expended.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Wm. Lance Lewis

WM. LANCE LEWIS
Texas Bar No. 12314560
MARCIE L. SCHOUT
Texas Bar No. 24027960
QUILLING, SELANDER, LOWNDS,
WINSLETT & MOSER P.C.
2001 Bryan Street, Suite 1800
Dallas, Texas 75201
(214) 871-2100 (Telephone)
(214) 871-2111 (Facsimile)

llewis@qslwm.com mschout@qslwm.com

ATTORNEYS FOR DEFENDANT THE BURLINGTON INSURANCE COMPANY

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

This is to certify that a true and correct copy of the foregoing pleading has been furnished to all counsel of record via the TexFile system, with a courtesy copy via electronic mail, in accordance with the Texas Rules of Civil Procedure, this 8th day of February 2021 at the addresses indicated below:

Christopher M. Cammack, Esq. 7324 Southwest Freeway, Suite 1446 Houston, Texas 77074 mcm@cammack-law.com

Larry G. Longer, Esq. 5005 W. 34th Street, Suite 206A Houston, Texas 77092 lglonger@swbell.net

/s/ Wm. Lance Lewis

Wm. Lance Lewis